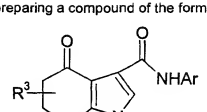
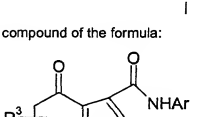
We claim:

1. A method of preparing a compound of the formula:



I

comprising reacting a compound of the formula:



II

with an excess of ammonia source in a reaction inert solvent at an elevated temperature until reaction is complete;

wherein Ar is phenyl or heterocycle, said phenyl or heterocycle being substituted with $-O-(CH_2)_m-NR^1R^2$, $-O(CH_2)_lC(O)OR^4$, $-CH(NR^7R^8)CH_3$, $-CH_2CH(NR^5R^6)CH_3$, or OH, and said phenyl or heterocycle being optionally substituted with one or two groups selected from C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 perflouroalkyl, F, Cl, and Br, wherein:

R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^6, and R^8 are independently selected from nitrogen protecting groups;

m and l are integers independently selected from 1 to 6; and

n is an integer from 0 to 2.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein Ar is phenyl substituted with said one or two groups.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said nitrogen protecting group is $-C(O)C_1-C_6$ alkoxy.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said nitrogen protecting group is benzyloxycarbonyl, fluorenyloxycarbonyl, acetyl, trifluoracetyl, chloroacetyl, benzoyl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, or benzyl.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said compound of formula I is selected from the group consisting of

Methyl-(1-{4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenyl}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

[2-(2-Fluoro-4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy)-ethyl]-propyl-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

Butyl-(2-{5-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-pyridin-2-yloxy}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

4-Oxo-4,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-cyclohepta[b]pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (2-fluoro-4-hydroxy-phenyl)-amide;

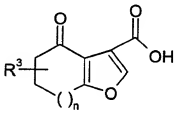
(1-Methyl-2-{4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenyl}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

(2-{4-[(4-Oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy}-ethyl)-propyl-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester; and

{2-Fluoro-5-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

6. A method according to claim 1 further wherein said compound of formula II is prepared by

(a) reacting a compound of the formula



III

with an excess of an acid chloride or anhydride in a reaction inert solvent containing an excess of an acid acceptor until reaction is complete; and

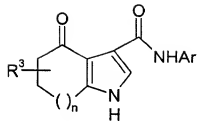
(b) adding an equivalent amount of NH_2-Ar to the solution of step (a) and holding until reaction is complete.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said acid chloride is ethylchloroformate.

8. The method according to claim 1 which further comprises removing said nitrogen protecting group.

9. The method according to claim 5 which further comprises removing said nitrogen protecting group.

10. A compound of the following formula:



I

wherein Ar is phenyl or heterocycle, said phenyl or heterocycle being substituted with $-O-(CH_2)_m-NR^1R^2$, $-O(CH_2)_lC(O)OR^4$, $-CH(NR^7R^8)CH_3$, $-CH_2CH(NR^5R^6)CH_3$, or OH, and said phenyl or heterocycle being optionally substituted with one or two groups selected from C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 perflouroalkyl, F, Cl, and Br, wherein:

R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^6, and R^8 are independently selected from nitrogen protecting groups;

m and l are integers independently selected from 1 to 6; and

n is an integer from 0 to 2.

11. A compound of claim 10 selected from the group consisting of:

Methyl-(1-{4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenyl}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

[2-(2-Fluoro-4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy)-ethyl]-propyl-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

Butyl-(2-{5-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-pyridin-2-yloxy}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

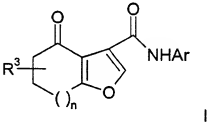
4-Oxo-4,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-cyclohepta[b]pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (2-fluoro-4-hydroxy-phenyl)-amide;

(1-Methyl-2-{4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenyl}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

{2-{4-[(4-Oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy}-ethyl)-propyl-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester; and

{2-Fluoro-5-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

12. A compound of the following formula:



II

wherein Ar is phenyl or heterocycle, said phenyl or heterocycle being substituted with $-O-(CH_2)_m-NR^1R^2$, $-O(CH_2)_lC(O)OR^4$, $-CH(NR^7R^8)CH_3$, $-CH_2CH(NR^5R^6)CH_3$, or OH, and said phenyl or heterocycle being optionally substituted with one or two groups selected from C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 perflouroalkyl, F, Cl, and Br, wherein:

R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

R^2, R^6, and R^8 are independently selected from nitrogen protecting groups;

m and l are integers independently selected from 1 to 6; and

n is an integer from 0 to 2.

13. The compound of claim 12 selected from the group consisting of:

Methyl-(1-{4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzofuran-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenyl}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

[2-(2-Fluoro-4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzofuran-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy)-ethyl]-propyl-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

Butyl-(2-{5-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzofuran-3-carbonyl)-amino]-pyridin-2-yloxy}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

4-Oxo-4,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-cyclohepta[b]furan-3-carboxylic acid (2-fluoro-4-hydroxy-phenyl)-amide;

(1-Methyl-2-{4-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzofuran-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenyl}-ethyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;

(2-{4-[(4-Oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzofuran-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy}-ethyl)-propyl-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester; and

{2-Fluoro-5-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzofuran-3-carbonyl)-amino]-phenoxy}-acetic acid ethyl ester.